

Terrorists Are Attacking

Terrorists are attacking our very shores.
Right now.
This very moment.
The violent death is upon us, this minute.
The high school library is nearly severed.
Cut off.
Almost nothing.

Be sure to do nothing!
“There’s nothing I can do,” says you.
A library contains nothing. And everything.
Everything and nothing is something.
I suspect.

Who are the suspects?
Is it you?
Is it them?
Maybe it’s me. Is it me?
Oh my God, it’s me.
I can’t save it.

The only saving I care about is my money.
And money is something!
Well, at least those books will be safely locked away.
In the safest place for them, too.
So there’s that.
No one will be able to steal them then.

I have never stolen a book.
But now, I realize, I have never saved one either.
I’ll maybe save my energy for something better.
I’ll defend the shores of something more important.
Or nothing.

Close the doors. Lock them tight.
I’m in no mood for a fight.
Seal it up. Shut it down.
I wear an orange suit all around, singing . . .

*This is the way the world ends
This is the way the world ends
This is the way the world ends
Not with a bang but a whimper.¹*

1. Fortunately it was an A day when I needed to pull this Eliot quote out of a book, and the librarian helped me!